

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 12493 261849Z

64

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 DRC-01

/166 W

----- 088966

R 261724Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5115

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 12493

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SG, IS

SUBJECT: POSSIBILITY OF SENEGALESE BREAK WITH ISRAEL

1. IN HIS CAPACITY AS ORGANIZER OF BRITISH COMMITTEE ON FRANCOPHONE AFRICA, RETIRED U.S. FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER MARCEL VAN ESSEN, NOW EMPLOYED AS LONDON REPRESENTATIVE OF FRENCH FIRM SCOA, HAD TWENTY-FIVE MINUTE INTERVIEW WITH VISITING PRESIDENT SENGHOR OCTOBER 25. DURING CONVERSATION, SENGHOR ALLUDED TO DRAMATIC EVENTS THEN BREAKING IN CONNECTION WITH MIDDLE EAST CRISIS AND SAID THAT UNLESS THINGS "CHANGED RADICALLY" IN THE INTERIM, HE WOULD RELUCTANTLY HAVE TO COME TO DECISION BY MONDAY, OCTOBER 29 TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. LATER HE SAID HIS ACTION WOULD BE AN "INTERRUPTION" OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, RATHER THAN A PERMANENT BREAK.

2. SENGHOR EXPLAINED THAT HE WAS UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE TO BREAK WITH ISRAEL BUT SAID THAT IF HE DID SO IT WOULD NOT BE OUT OF ANY GREAT REGARD FOR THE ARABS WHOM HE DISMISSED WITH A WAVE OF THE HAND. HE SAID HE SUPPORTED THE EGYPTIANS AS AFRICANS, NOT AS ARABS. AS FOR ISRAEL, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 12493 261849Z

HE SAID HE HAD BEEN DISILLUSIONED BY MRS. MEIR'S FAILURE

TO BE THE LEAST BIT CONCILIATORY AFTER SHE HAD GIVEN HIM TO UNDERSTAND THAT SHE WAS PREPARED TO MAKE AT LEAST SOME CONCESSIONS TO THE ARABS WHEN HE HAD SPOKEN WITH HER IN HIS CAPACITY AS SPOKESMAN FOR A GROUP OF AFRICAN CHIEFS OF STATE (THE "WISEMEN") A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO. FURTHERMORE, IT WAS ISRAEL WHO HAD VIOLATED THE ORIGINAL CEASE-FIRE, SENGHOR SAID, AN ACTION WHICH HE COULD NOT CONDONE.

3. TURNING TO THE U.S. POSTURE TOWARD THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE ALERTING OF U.S. FORCES, SENGHOR SAID HE WAS FIRST AND FOREMOST AN ATLANTIC MAN. AMERICANS CAME FIRST WITH HIM AND HE SUPPORTED OUR ACTIONS DESIGNED TO HEAD OFF WHATEVER MILITARY PLANS THE SOVIETS MAY HAVE HAD IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

4. VAN ESSEN ASKED THAT WE NOT LET BRITISH KNOW THAT SENGHOR HAD SPOKEN IN THIS VEIN TO HIM. HE PRESUMED THAT SENGHOR WOULD TELL FONSEC DOUGLAS-HOME OF HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD ISRAEL AT DINNER LATER IN THE EVENING, BUT WHEN VAN ESSEN SPOKE WITH HIM HE HAD NOT YET MENTIONED THIS SUBJECT TO ANY BRITISH OFFICIAL.

ANNENBERG

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WAR, ARMISTICE, FOREIGN RELATIONS, MEETINGS, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LONDON12493
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS ANNENBERG
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731010/aaaaaguq.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 FEB 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <27-Jul-2001 by thigpegh, 3.4.X1>; RELEASED <20 FEB 2002 by golinofr>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBILITY OF SENEGALESE BREAK WITH ISRAEL
TAGS: PFOR, SG, IS, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005